

# A HISTORY OF PALATINE LODGE, No 97

## A BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Of

Bro Thomas Hardy



Bro Thomas Hardy, Woollen Draper was Initiated on May 12th, and Passed and Raised on May 30th 1796.

During his long membership of 60 years (1796 --- 1855) he filled every office in the Lodge, and also progressed through the various offices of Prov GL attaining the rank of Prov SGW.

For about 30 years he regularly officiated as the Installing Master, concerning which the Minutes speak in the highest praise, and describing his orations on the "Origins of Freemasonry" as 'beautiful', his rendering of the various Charges as "pathetically given" and his Lectures as always being intently listened to.

On the union of the Grand Lodges under the title of The United Grand Lodge of England in 1813, he took a prominent part in instructing the Brethren in the Province in the new Mode of degree Working. As a mark of esteem the Lodge instructed an eminent Artist, Bro Jefferson, to paint the Portrait of Bro Hardy on Dec: 27; 1820.

In 1838 he had the pleasure of installing his son, William H Hardy as WM in succession to Sir Cuthbert Sharp, a position he retained until his death in the early part of 1840.

Six years before this sad event he was presented with a Gold Snuff Box, now a jealously guarded lodge treasure and a source of anxiety to our W Ms.

At this point Bro Watson appends the minutes of the actual presentation: - "Banquet in honour of Bro T Hardy which can be found in section ' Speeches and Addresses' at page 230.



Gold Snuff Box